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Title: Need to withdraw the Gazette Notification stipulating compulsory educational qualification for seeking driving licence.

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL (VIJAYAWADA): India is a major country in the world with large number of vehicular population, high percentage of illiteracy and one of the few countries having different modes of transportation to carry people and goods.

Motor Vehicle Act mandates every person to obtain driving licence to drive a vehicle - private or public or transport. People who drive auto rickshaw, taxi, light motor vehicles, trucks for their livelihood should also obtain driving licence from STA. What all they need is skill in driving and knowledge of traffic rules. The preset Motor Vehicle Act does not prescribe any educational qualification. But, Gazette Notification G.S.R. No. 276 (E) dated 10.4.2007 makes it compulsory for every driver to have educational qualification of 8^{th} standard for obtaining a driving licence. Drivers are poor and illiterate and drive transport/private vehicles to win bread and butter for their family. With the recent notification, the transport authorities are insisting for educational qualification certificate of 8^{th} standard for driving licence. As many licence-seekers are poor and illiterate, they are feeling that they are being deprived of getting a driving licence. Now, they cannot go to school to study up to 8^{th} standard to obtain a licence. So, what they are doing is they are submitting fake certificates. I fail to understand the rationale and purpose behind prescribing educational qualification. This notification deprives them an opportunity to earn a few rupees for their families.

So, I request the Government of India to immediately withdraw this Notification as it serves little purpose.

* Treated as laid on the Table.